

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : B. Muller-Rober et al.  
Serial No. : 08/702,718  
Filed : September 9, 1996  
For : PROCESSES FOR INHIBITING AND FOR INDUCING  
FLOWER FORMATION IN PLANTS  
Examiner : Not yet Assigned  
Group : Not yet Assigned

Box PCT

Honorable Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

New York, New York  
March 28, 1997

DECLARATION OF ANTHONY WILSON  
IN SUPPORT OF A RESPONSE TO NOTIFICATION  
OF MISSING REQUIREMENTS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371

Sir:

I, ANTHONY WILSON, declare that:

1. I am the U.S. Patent and Docket Supervisor at the firm of Fish & Neave, having a business address of 1251 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10020. I have been continuously employed by Fish & Neave in that capacity at all times relevant herein.

2. This declaration, which I make in support of the accompanying response to Notification of Missing Requirements under 37 C.F.R. § 371, describes the procedures followed by this firm's mailroom and patent department personnel upon receipt of papers,

including Notifications of Missing Requirements, received from the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

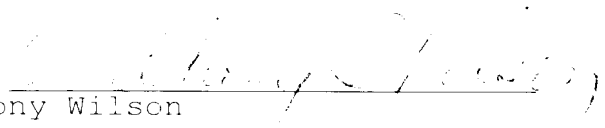
3. It is my understanding that all papers related to patent prosecution are normally received by the mail room and delivered directly to the patent department at Fish & Neave for docketing. The patent department stamps the paper with the date of receipt, and pulls the patent prosecution file folder for that case. The front cover of the file folder is then annotated to indicate the type of document received and the date of receipt (or the date of mailing, as appropriate). The same information is also entered into PC MASTER(TM), the patent docketing software package used by this firm to automate docketing and tracking of patent prosecution matters. Finally, the paper is filed in the prosecution file, and the file is forwarded to the individual responsible for the case.

4. Because there is no record of a December 27, 1996 Notification being received in either the prosecution file (see file folder cover attached to the accompanying Petition as Exhibit C), or in the PC MASTER docketing system (see screen printout of the file history attached to the accompanying Petition as Exhibit D), I do not believe that the December 27, 1996 Notification was ever received from the Patent and Trademark Office.

5. I hereby declare that I understand the English language, and that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so

made are punishable by fine, or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. § 1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the above-identified patent application or any patent issuing thereon.

Executed March 12, 1997

  
Anthony Wilson